

ACT 28

LABOR DAY

THERE
WE GO,
GET 'ER
LAID
DOWN.

DECEMBER 31ST,
1909 (YEAR 42
OF THE MEIJI
ERA). ESTATE
OF THE KUROGA
VILLAGE HEAD.

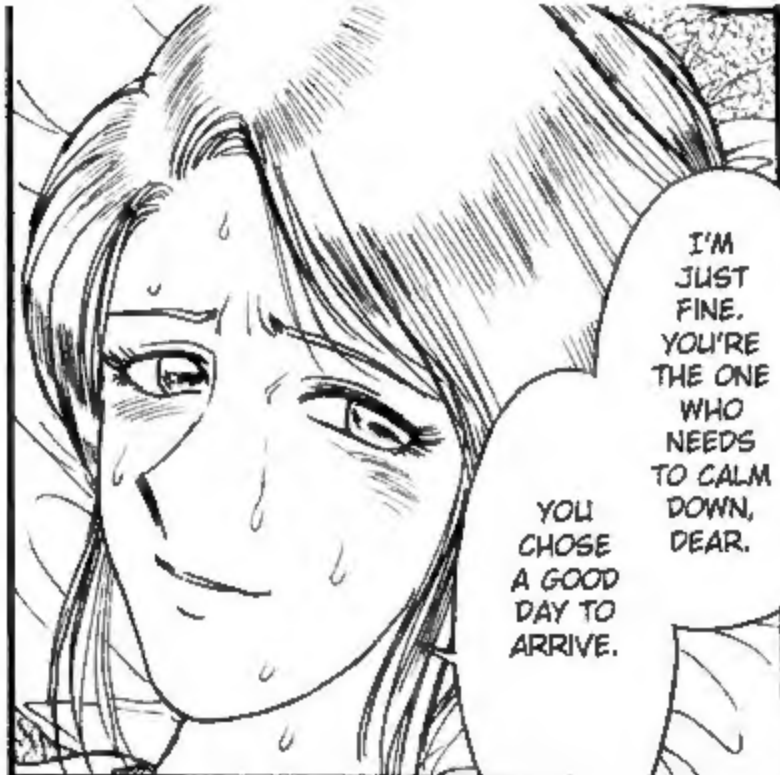
RIGHT...
THANK
YOU.

SHOUJI-
SAMA, JUST
GIVE A
HOLLER IF
YA NEED
US ANY.

SURE.

THANKS
FOR THE
HELP.
NOW YOU
MENFOLK
GET ON
OUTTA
HERE.





YOU
CHOSE
A GOOD
DAY TO
ARRIVE.

I'M
JUST
FINE.
YOU'RE
THE ONE
WHO
NEEDS
TO CALM
DOWN,
DEAR.



I-JUST
KEEP
YOUR
COOL,
NOW,
ANGE-
LINA.



OH?
WHAT'RE
THOSE TWO
FOREIGNERS
DOIN' HERE?



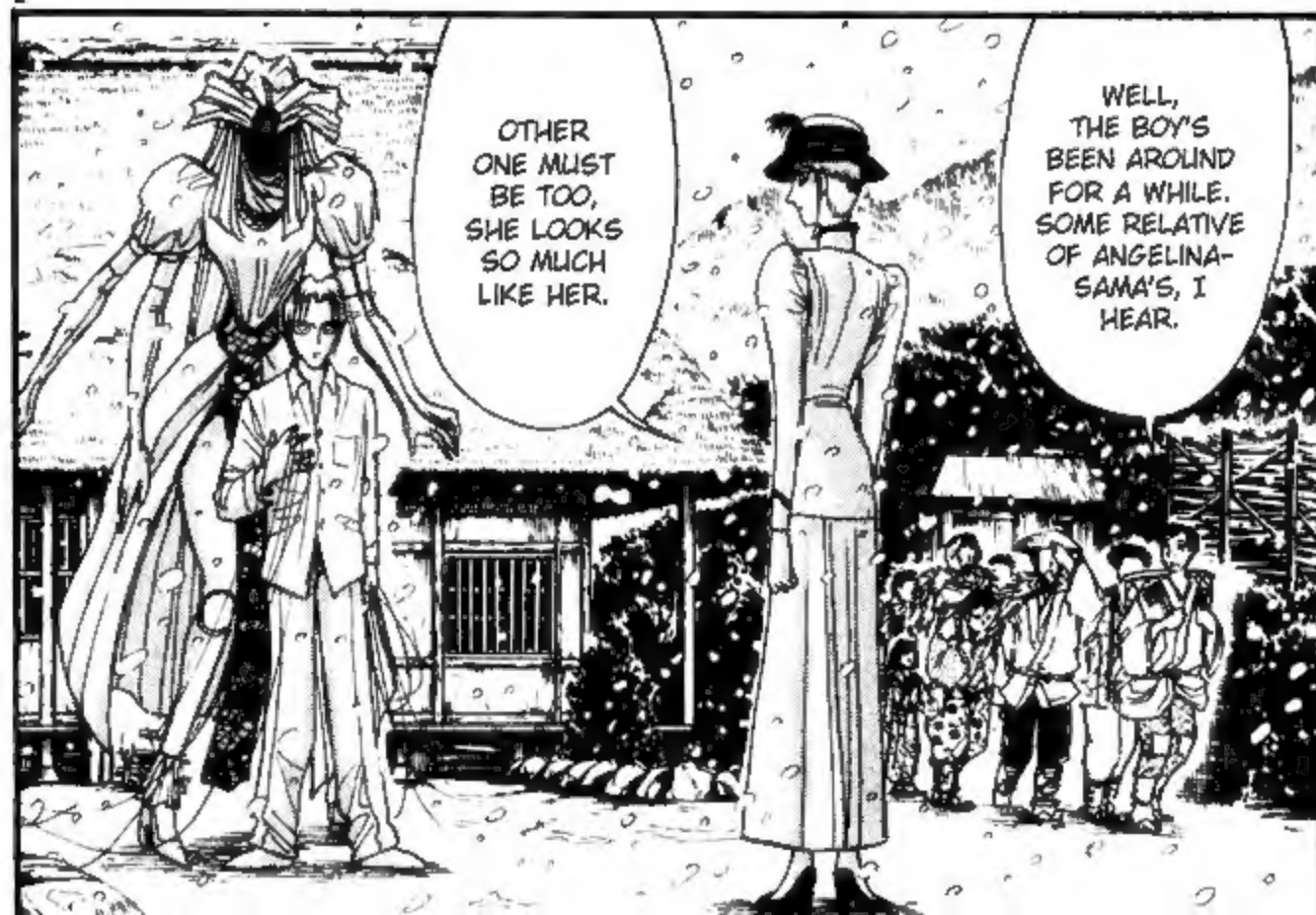
LEAVE
THINGS
TO THE
MIDWIFE
FROM
HERE
ON IN.

Y'ALL
JUST
HURRY
UP AND
GET
MOVIN'.



SHOULDA
BEEN A
MONTH TO
GO YET.

AIN'T
THIS
COMIN'
EARLIER
THAN IT
OUGHT
TO'VE?



OTHER
ONE MUST
BE TOO,
SHE LOOKS
SO MUCH
LIKE HER.

WELL,
THE BOY'S
BEEN AROUND
FOR A WHILE.
SOME RELATIVE
OF ANGELINA-
SAMA'S, I
HEAR.



I'M
BUSY
THIN-
KING.

YOU
KEEP
QUIET.



WERE
YOU NOT
ABOUT
TO DIS-
MANTLE
ME,
SHIRO-
GANE?



HEY!
HEEEY!
I GOT
BAD
NEWS!



SHE'S
STRAINED HER
BACK! SAYS
SHE CAN'T
POSSIBLY
COME TO
TOWN TO-
DAY!

SHE
AIN'T?!
WHY ON
EARTH
NOT?!



THAT'S
JUST IT!
THE OLD
MIDWIFE
AIN'T
COMIN'!

GEN-SAN?
WHERE'S
TAMI-SAN?
WEREN'T
YOU OFF
TELLING
HER TO
COME?



DON'T YOU WORRY NONE, MA'AM. THIS AIN'T THE FIRST TIME WE'VE BEEN THROUGH THIS.



I SEE... WELL, WE'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE DO ON OUR OWN.

SHE CAN'T MAKE IT OVER.

YOU KNOW HOW HER HOUSE'S ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN, RIGHT?



I'LL GO FETCH HER. I KNOW WHERE HER HOUSE IS.



SHOUJI-... SAMA...?



YOU HANG IN THERE.

I'LL BE RIGHT BACK, ANGE-LINA...



I WANT TO DO ALL I CAN TO HELP MY WIFE.

I'VE DELIVERED MY SHARE OF BABIES, TOO, LONG AGO. BUT AS THE SAYING GOES, YOU LEAVE YOUR MOCHI TO THE MOCHI-MAKERS.

I'M GLAD TO DO IT...



WHAT?! CARRY HER HERE, YOU MEAN?!

AIN'T NO NEED FOR THAT. WE'LL MANAGE JUST FINE.







I'LL
KEEP
AN EYE
ON THE
AUTOMA-
TON AND
MAKE
SURE
...

SHE
DOESN'T
TRY ANY-
THING
FUNNY.



VERY
WELL.

THAT'S
SUCH A
CLICHE.

HA
...
"MAN
TO
MAN"
...?



WHOA,
NELLY!
IS THAT
A PUPPET
UP THERE
WITH A
FURRINER
RIDIN' ON
IT?

THEY'RE
FLYIN'...!



I'M
COUN-
TING
ON
YOU!



GET
OVER
HERE!

HEY!
WHAT'RE
YOU ALL
DOIN' JUST
STANDIN'
AROUND?!



COURSE
I AM!
YOU GOT
KIN GIVIN'
BIRTH IN
THERE!

ARE YOU
SPEAKING
TO ME?

YOU
ARE
INCLU-
DING
ME?

"YOU
ALL"...
THE
PLURAL
FORM?

8



DON'T
GO PUSHIN'
JUST YET,
MA'AM.



JUST
GET
INSIDE!

I
AM AN
AUTO-

NO,
I'M
NOT
...

KIN?

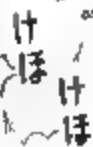
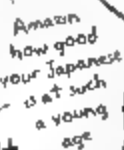
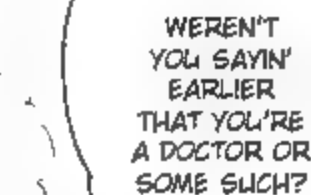
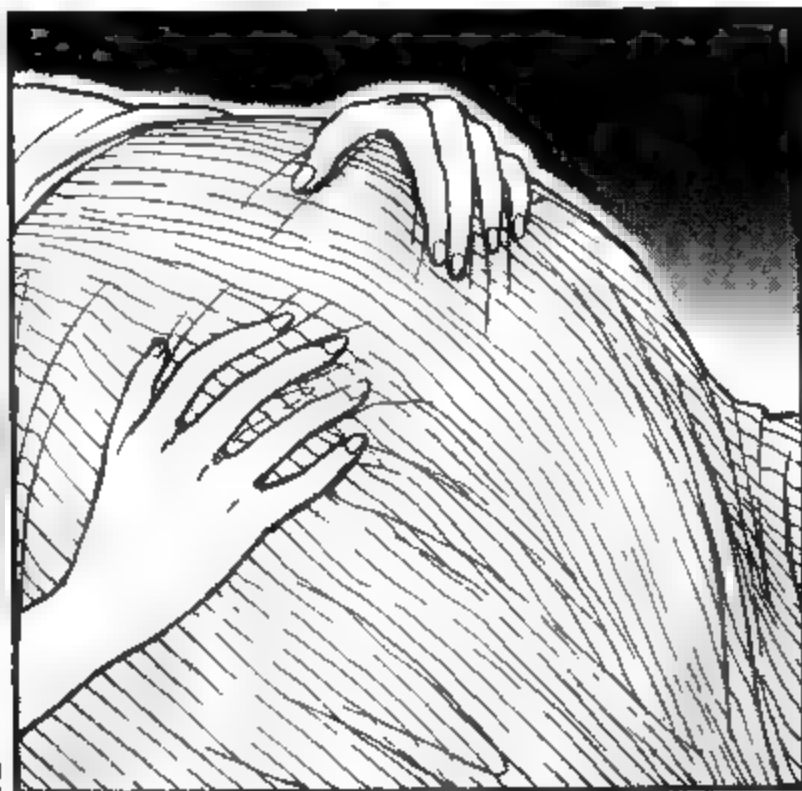
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SFX: GASP









NO,
NO...!
MY FOCUS
WAS ON
SURGERY...
OBSTE-
TRICS IS
A TOTALLY
DIFFERENT
...



EVERY-
THING'LL
BE JUST
FINE NOW,
MA'AM!

THERE WAS
NO NEED FOR
SHOUJI-SAMA
TO GO FETCH
THE MIDWIFE
AT ALL!

WHY
THEN,
WE GOT
NOTHIN'
TO WORRY
ABOUT!



NO,
WAIT A
SECOND
...!

HURRY
UP AND GO
ENCOURAGE
HER!

12

SFX: SMILE



WHAT A
RELIEF...



YOU'RE
A DOCTOR,
GUY...

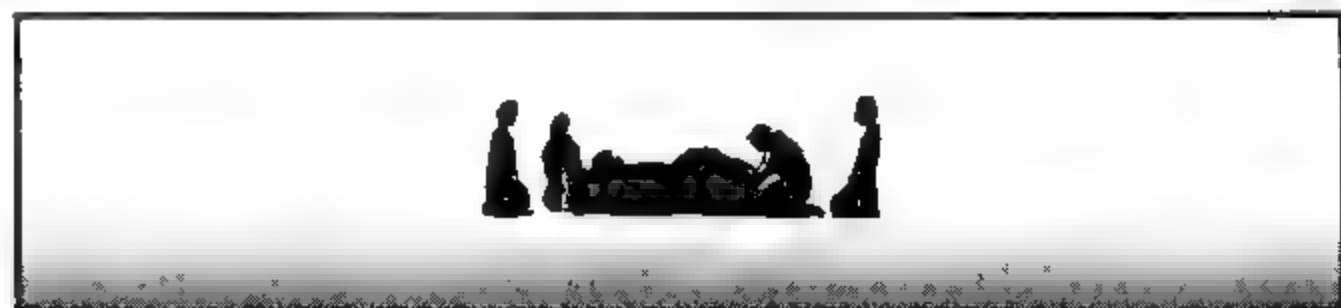
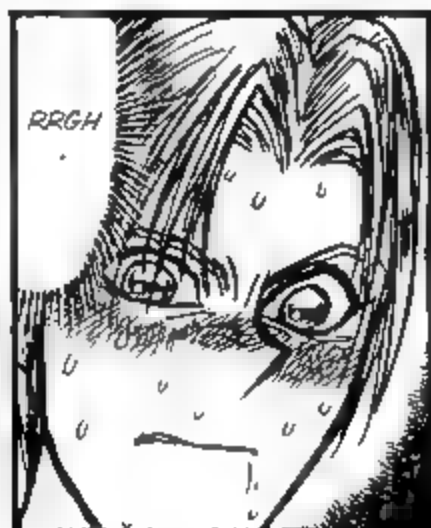
THAT'S
RIGHT
...

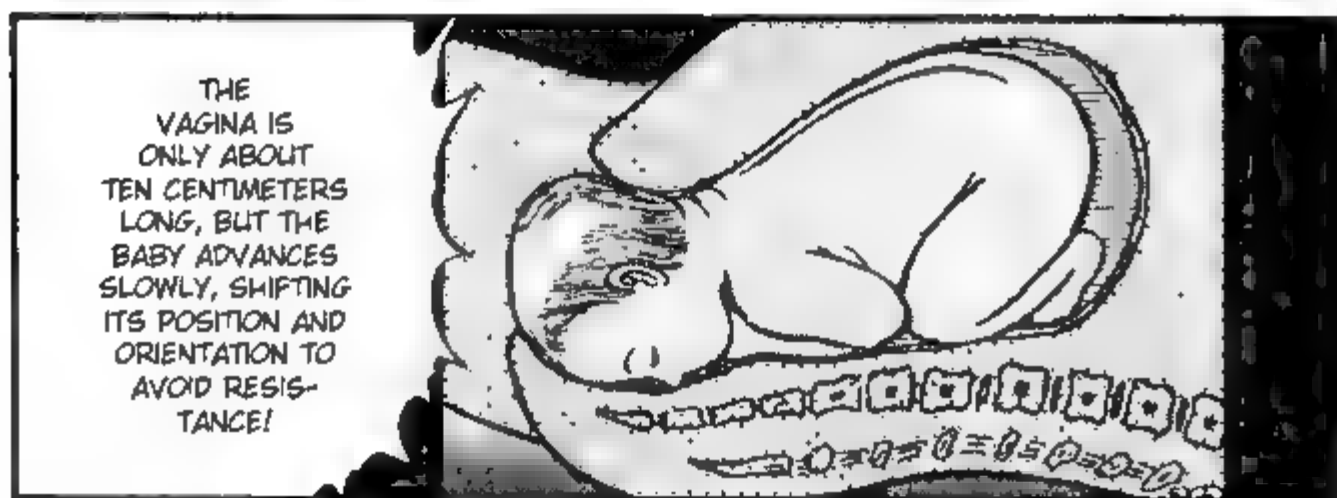


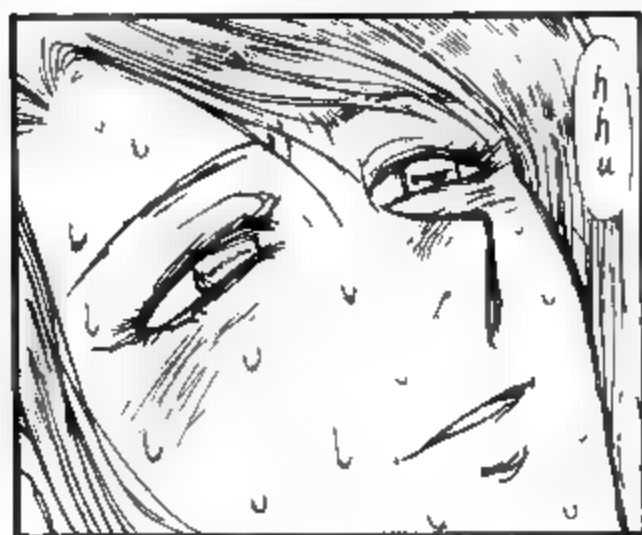
AH...



ER...
THAT
IS...









16





I UNDER-
STAND THAT
PART, BUT
WITH THIS
STRAINED
BACK I AIN'T
GONNA BE
GOOD FOR
NOTHIN' BUT
ADVICE!

I'M
SORRY
ABOUT
THE
ROUGH
TRIP,
TAMI-
SAN.

BUT
WE
NEED
YOUR
HELP.

SFX: BURSTING INTO TEARS

TH-
THAT
MAY
BE
TRUE
...

BUT
I'M
STILL
WOR-
RIED
...!

'SIDES,
BIRTH IS
SOMETHIN'
MOST WOMEN
GO THROUGH.
IT'S YOU MEN
WHO MAKE ALL
THE FUSS
OVER IT!

THAT'S
ALL WE
NEED!

* THIS IS THE MEIJI ERA. MODERN MEDICINE IS MUCH MORE ADVANCED.

17

MAKES
FOR A
DIFFICULT
DELIVERY
WHEN THE
BABY'S
FEET ARE
UNDERNEATH
AND IT COMES
OUT THAT
WAY 'STEAD
OF HEAD-
FIRST.

A BREECH
BIRTH...
WHEN THOSE
ARE HANDLED
BADLY, THE
CHILD'S LIFE
IS IN DAN-
GER.

THE
VILLAGE
WOMEN
ARE NO
SLOUCHES,
Y'KNOW.

THOUGH
THERE
MIGHT
BE SOME
TROUBLE
IF IT'S A
BREECH
BABY.

BUT
IT DON'T
HAPPEN
ALL THAT
OFTEN.



WHAT IS IT?

IS THERE SOME SORT OF PROBLEM?

THE MIDWIFE STILL ISN'T HERE?!

ISN'T SHOUJIROU BACK YET, DAMMIT?!



A WHAT...?

IT'S A PELVIC PRESENTATION.



WE AIN'T GONNA BE ABLE TO HANDLE THIS WITHOUT TAMISAN!

I... DON'T KNOW A THING ABOUT HANDLING THIS KIND OF BIRTH.



YOUR CHILD COULD BE IN SERIOUS TROUBLE!

HURRY, SHOUJIROU! HURRY UP AND GET HERE!



THAT MEANS IT'S A BREECH BIRTH.

Kodansha's English-language release of *Black Museum: The Ghost and the Lady* (Book 1) is now out! Please consider buying it to show your support for Fujita's work, and please **don't** mention scanlations of his other manga to anyone involved in the official release!

NOTES:

pg. 4: *Mochi wa mochi-ya*: a saying meaning that if you want the best results, you go to a specialist.

pg. 14: 10 centimeters would be at the lower end of the spectrum (or the speculum, as it were).
The vagina can be up to ~18 centimeters in length.

These scanlations have been uploaded *only* to Batoto so that I can remove them if the series is ever licensed. Please read them there instead of on websites that rip them and watermark them to make a profit off your views!

Thanks to Judash137 on the mangafox forums for removing the Japanese text, and to the anonymous person who tipped me off to that!

Any group with more experience or skill is welcome to take over at any time or to redo chapters I have already done if they are below the quality that this series deserves.